FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 DECEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Military Situation — The situation in southern Beirut "erupted" early on 8 December when U.S. Marines were shelled and retaliated with tank fire and other "appropriate weapons," Beirut radio reported. The fighting came after the security situation deteriorated the previous afternoon, with Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and elsewhere receiving and returning fire, the radio said. Meanwhile, Phalangist militia repulsed a Druze attempt to infiltrate a village in the Al-Kharrub district, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

The Security Arrangements Committee, which was established to consolidate the cease-fire, failed to meet for the fourth consecutive day because of the Amal Movement's boycott of the meetings in protest against recent kidnappings of Shi'ites, according to Beirut radio. The Lebanese Army representative told the radio the committee has lost credibility and effectiveness since its original members ceased attending and sent other representatives, and he added that he will not participate in further meetings until the original delegates resume attendance.

In another development, gunmen kidnapped four editors of *AN-NAHAR* in Beirut, according to the Voice of Lebanon. Beirut radio said the four were subsequently released.

U.S. Pilots — Syrian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Faruq ash-Shar' announced that the body of the U.S. pilot killed on 4 December has been handed over to the U.S. Government and that the release of the captured pilot "depends on the improvement in U.S.-Syrian relations," Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Political Developments — President Amin al-Jumayyil understands Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan's reasons for wanting to resign but asked for "patience" in this regard and insisted that the prime minister and Cabinet remain in office until "national consultations" on the government issue have been held, the Cabinet announced in an official statement broadcast by Beirut radio. Al-Jumayyil said that he will set dates for national consultations soon and briefed the ministers on his recent trip abroad, the statement noted. In another development, Foreign Minister Elie Salim postponed his planned visit to Damascus in order to attend a parliamentary debate on government policy, the radio reported. A special envoy will visit Syria to set a new date for the visit, the radio said.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has approved "most" of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami's plan to evacuate 'Arafat loyalists from Tripoli, AFP reported citing "well-informed sources." The agency noted that 'Arafat continues to have "reservations" about the clause in the plan that provides for a withdrawal of the besieging dissident forces from Tripoli to the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid refugee camps because he feels that leaving the dissidents in control of the camps is tantamount to a unilateral withdrawal of loyalist forces.

Meanwhile, a Greek Government spokesman cited by Athens radio confirmed that 'Arafat's forces are to be evacuated in Greek ships, affirming that at 'Arafat's request the Greek Merchant Marine Ministry chartered four ferries to transport 'Arafat and approximately 4,000 supporters from Tripoli to the YAR and Tunisia. The ships, which will fly Greek and UN flags, were to begin departing Greece for Tripoli on the night of 7 December, the spokesman added.

Syria

Libyan Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud arrived in Damascus from Aden and was received by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Damascus radio reported. Meanwhile, Minister of State Faruq ash-Shar' expressed readiness to begin a dialogue with the United States and promised that his country would "positively receive" envoy Donald Rumsfeld, according to Radio Monte Carlo. Ash-Shar' also affirmed that President Hafiz al-Asad has "fully recovered," has begun some physical exercise, and has resumed several of the duties of his office.

Iraq

A military spokesman cited by INA claimed that six Iranian "naval targets" trying to enter the Khowr-e Musa canal were sunk and one fighter was downed in renewed action on 8 December. One Iraqi plane was lost as a result of "technical failure." Iranian media have not yet been heard to report this action.

Iran

Velayati Interview — Iran desires the unity and solidarity of the Palestinian resistance and hopes that the PLO's internal clashes will end so that all weapons can be aimed at the United States and Israel, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said in an interview reported by Tehran radio. Speaking in Dhaka, where he is attending the Islamic foreign ministers conference, Velayati also noted that Iran is still opposed to any move to reinstate Egypt and Afghanistan in the Islamic Conference Organization.

Tudeh Trial — At the trial of Tudeh Party members which started on 6 December, former Navy Commander Bahram 'Afzali admitted to spying on behalf of the Soviet Union and declared himself guilty, sinful, and repentant, Tehran radio reported.

OPEC Affairs

The 69th ordinary OPEC conference opened in Geneva on 7 December, OPECNA reported, adding that the main topic of discussion at the conference will be the OPEC Market Monitoring Committee's recommendation that the existing overall production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels per day and market price of $29 per barrel be maintained. During the first day's session Libyan Secretary of Oil Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur was elected new OPEC conference president, replacing UAE Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, the agency stated.

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Ministry Holds Security Chiefs Seminar

LD072325 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text]A seminar of the security chiefs of the sarandoy commands in the country's provinces opened today in the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Mohammad Faruq, head of the Internal Affairs Ministry Political Department, spoke about the organization and taking up measures toward consolidating and strengthening state power and discipline.

A BAKHTAR agency correspondent reports that subqequently, the security director of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the sarandoy commander of Kabul made statements concerning public order and security in the country and the method of work in maintaining security and public order.

Also, the deputy head of the ministry's Personnel Department spoke on the topic and, in conclusion, views were exchanged about revolution defense work. The seminar concluded in an atmosphere of understanding and with the exchange of experiences by the participants.

Khomyakov-Led Delegation Departs 7 Dec

LD072343 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] The USSR delegation led by Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Khomyakov, member of the CPSU Central Committee, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet and first secretary of Tombov Oblast, who had come to Kabul at the invitation of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society to take part in the ceremony marking the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Afghan treaty of friendship, good neighborliness, and cooperation, today left Kabul for the USSR.

At Kabul Airport, the delegation was seen off by 'Abdol Majid Sarboland, member of the PDPA Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and assistant head of the Afghan-Soviet Friendship Society; assistant heads of the International Relations Department of the PDPA Central Committee; members of the DRA Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization; assistant head of protocol in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and F.A. Tabeyev, USSR ambassador in Kabul.

Mangal-Led Delegation Returns From USSR

LD072335 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text]Sarwar Mangal, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the State Planning Committee, today returned to Kabul after visiting the USSR to participate in the ceremony marking the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Soviet-Afghan treaty of friendship, good neighborliness, and cooperation.

At Kabul Airport, Sarwar Mangal and his entourage were welcomed by Abdol Majid Sarboland, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Nazar Mohammad, minister of public work; Abdol Samad Oyumi [name as received], minister of education and training; assistant heads of the International Relations Department of the PDPA Central Committee and State Planning Committee; secretary of the DRA Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization; deputy head of protocol, Ministry of Foreign Affairs;and Aleksandr Obolov, charge d'affaires and plenipotentiary of the USSR Embassy in Kabul.

During his stay in Moscow and Tashkent, the vice chairman of the Council of Ministers met the respective authorities of Soviet-Afghan Friendship Society and carried out talks on subjects of mutual interest, further strengthening friendship between the two countries.

Seed Delivery Contract Concluded With USSR

LD072348 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1730 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text]A contract valued at 1,310,952 rubles was concluded today between the friendly country of the USSR [words indistinct] and the Ministry of Agriculture and Land Reform on the (?delivery) of 5,000 tons of agriculturally improved wheat seeds and 1,000 tons of improved cotton seeds.

A spokesman from the ministry told a BAKHTAR correspondent that these improved seeds, which are most suitable for Aghanistan's environment, will be distributed among the peasants during the spring sowing campaign which begins on 21 March 1984. The source added that these seeds will be delivered to the Afghan side until the end of the current year.

Keshtmand Discusses Relations With USSR

For an interview with Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, by APN and *SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA* correspondent A. Sukhoparov, entitled, "Example of Good Neighborliness," published in Moscow *SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA* in Russian 4 December First Edition, see the South Asia section of the 6 December Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT*.

Reportage on ICO Foreign Ministers Conference

Sahel Committee Resolutions

BK071158 Dhaka BSS in English 1118 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 7, BSS — The fourth meeting of the Committee of Islamic Solidarity with the People of Sahel which met here today adopted a number of resolutions to be placed before the plenary session of the 14th ICFM [Islamic conference of foreign ministers] for consideration of the foreign ministers on the second-day of the conference.

Secretary general of OIC [Islamic Conferencce Organization] placed a report at the meeting on the activities of the committee which was presided over by Iraqi State Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. H. 'Alwan.

The committee is comprised of six including Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, UAE, Malaysia, PLO and Iraq. Iraqi Vice President Mr Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf is the president of the committee.

The Sahel committee was formed at the third Islamic summit held in Ta'if to formulate measures in support of drought striken countries of Sahel region to fight the natural calamity. The Sahel countries are: Senegal, Gambia, Mali, Upper Volta, Mauritania, Guinea Bissau, Niger, Guinea and Cape Verde. Cape Verde is, however, not member of OIC.

The representative of Mali spoke on behalf the Sahel countries in the meeting which after discussion of Mr Chatti's report adopted resolutions. According to OIC secretariat, the resolution emphasised the need to assist the people of the Sahel region who were passing through a severe drought of "tragic dimension." It also underscored the need for Islamic solidarity with Sahel countries to help them withstand this difficult condition and to reflect Islamic solidarity among the countries of the region.

Economic Committee Session

BK071235 Dhaka BSS in English 1120 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 7 (BSS) — The world economic situation vis-a-vis the economy of the Islamic states was discussed in the first session of official level economic committee of the 14th Islamic conference of foreign ministers here this morning.

The committee in the afternoon session will discuss some broad issues like cooperation among the OIC [Islamic Conference Organization] member countries in the field of trade and industry, transportation, communications, and food and agriculture, conference sources said.

The sources said the committee will hold threadbare [as received] discussions on these issues before adopting a number of resolutions to be submitted to the foreign ministers for their consideration.

At the outset of the meeting of the committee, Bangladesh and Gambia were elected chairman and vice chairman respectively. Saudi representative to the committee was elected rapporteur.

Indonesian Minister's Response

BK071247 Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja has called on the Islamic Conference Organization, ICO, to remember the Islamic summit declaration issued in Mecca in 1981. In the declaration, the heads of state and government of world's Islamic countries expressed their sincere determination to step up the spirit of solidarity in order to restore the unity and cohesion of the Islamic nations.

Minister Mokhtar made the call on behalf of the Islamic countries of the Asian region as a response to the message given by General Hussain Mohammad Ershad of Bangladesh at the opening of the 14th meeting of the foreign ministers of ICO.

Minister Mokhtar said the present Dhaka meeting should be made the forum for the resolution and burial of all past conflicts and differences by following the soul and spirit of the Mecca declaration for the purpose of strengthening the unity and cohesion of the Islamic countries.

Somalian Minister's Remarks

AB071621 Paris AFP in English 1459 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 7 (AFP) — Somalia today called on Islamic states to condemn Ethiopia and to demand that Addis Ababa withdraw its troops from Somali territory.

Somali Foreign Minister Abdurahman Jama Barre told the Islamic Conference Organization ministerial meeting here that the root of conflict in the Horn of Africa was Ethiopia's "persistent colonialism," and its denial of the right to self-determination of peoples under its [word indistinct]. The minister said his government had no territorial claims on Ethiopia, but gave "determined support" to the legitimate rights of the people of Western Somalia, the Abbo region and Eritrea, who were fighting for freedom and national independence.

Mr. Jama Barre added that conflict in the region [words indistinct] by the intervention of "foreign military forces," but did not specifically mention Cuban and Eastern bloc support for the Addis Ababa regime, nor U.S. support for his own government. He said that "as a result of these (Ethiopian) aggressions, two areas of my country are under military occupation up to this very day."

Ethiopia and Somalia have been at loggerheads for years. In 1977-78, they fought a war over the Ethiopian-held Ogaden (Western Somalia) [word indistinct], which has an ethnic Somali population.

Iranian Minister on Agenda

LD071331 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati, who is in Dhaka to take part in the conference of the foreign ministers of Islamic countries, in

an interview with the Central News Unit correspondent, expressed his views on the important issues that are on the agenda of the current session.

He said: The war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran by the regime ruling Iraq is one of the important issues that is on the agenda of this session. If the conference justly investigates the war issue, it should identify the side that started the war, that has repeatedly bombed towns and residential areas, and that is making use of chemical weapons against the people.

Velayati said: We will reject any position adopted by any individual or international organization that does not pay heed to justice and truth. We hope that on the basis of its experiences in dealing with the Islamic Republic of Iran in the last 3 years the Islamic conference will investigate the imposed war with a humane and Islamic approach.

In reply to a question on the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran concerning the clashes between various wings of the PLO, our country's foreign minister said: We desire the unity and solidarity of all Palestinian strugglers against the regime occupying Jerusalem and the supporters of the Zionist regime. We hope that as a result of the endeavors of all those interested in the fate of Islam and the Muslims the internal clashes of the PLO will end as soon as possible, and that all the weapons will be aimed against the true enemies of Islam, led by America and the regime occupying Jerusalem.

In reply to a question about rumors concerning the return of Egypt and Afghanistan to the fold of the Islamic countries, Velayati said: The suspension of Egypt's membership was due to the signing of the Camp David accord by the regime ruling that country, and in the resolution approved by the Islamic conference at that time it was specified that as long as the reason for Egypt's suspension exists that country's membership in the conference would be suspended. In view of the fact that the Egyptian Government is still continuing its path, as formerly, of compromise with the regime occupying Jerusalem and separation from the Muslim ranks, there is no reason for its return to the Islamic conference.

Also in view of the massive slaughter of the Muslims by the regime ruling Afghanistan and by Soviet invading forces, and also in view of the fact that the interests of Islam and Muslims have been greatly violated and trampled upon in that country, if the seat belonging to Afghanistan is occupied by the representatives of the government ruling that country this would be tantamount to confrontation with Islam.

Velayati Address

GF071740 Tehran IRNA in English 1711 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec. 7, IRNA — The influence of foreign powers in Islamic lands, the Zionist regime's pressures upon Muslims, the present calamities of the Muslim world, the occupation of Afghanistan, and the Iraqi imposed war against Iran, were among the most significant issues that Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati of the Islamic Republic raised in his speech at the 14th ICO meeting here today.

On the present plights of Muslim world, the foreign minister said that 14 years elapsed since the ungodly measure of the Zionist regime in setting fire to the Al-Aqsa Mosque. The rancour which was touched off by this sacrilege in the world of Islam formed the impetus for creation of an organisation that was missioned to concentrate efforts and energies of the Islamic nations in a campaign for eliminating colonialism and racial discrimination. It is also to supply support for the campaigns of Islamic nations to vindicate their national rights, achieve independence, and to assist the oppressed Palestinian nation in liberating their lands.

Yet after fourteen years, the world of Islam is faced with miseries caused by aggression of global colonialists, and Islamic lands, such as Palestine, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Sahara, and the Philippines have been invaded by foreign forces. This is while the desire for struggle has not diminished in the hearts of millions of Muslims during the recent years, but instead has intensified and grown ever since. During this period, not only have the Zionist aggressors held the first qibla [holy site] of Muslim in their clutches but they have transgressed upon Lebanon as well.

Dr. Velayati further said that not only did not the Islamic governments mobilise their popular forces against the regime usurping Palestine but they did not even withhold their resources from superpowers who were accomplices to Zionist regime's crimes. While the enemy pressed its unjust demands by the logic of its machine guns, the Islamic governments would not even wish to stop putting their economic resources at the disposal of the superpowers, he said.

On the occupation of Afghanistan, Dr. Velayati said that the aggression of West oppressive front in Palestine and Lebanon was repeated in another way by the Eastern superpower in Afghanistan. Enumerating the various calamities imposed upon the Afghan Muslims, the foreign minister stressed that the campaign of Afghan Muslim nation to achieve their national rights and independence was a just and rightful cause. He continued that practical and decisive support for this righteous campaign was an Islamic and human duty and corresponded with one of the main goals of the ICO and as a principle of the organisations charter.

Foreign Minister Velayati emphasised that the Islamic Republic could not remain impartial or silent towards these aggressions while following its spiritual goals and its foreign policy. Trerefore, the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of aggressor forces from Afghanistan and providing a situation in which the Afghan nation could freely choose its desired kind of government, was the basis of Iran's policy in connection with this catastrophe of world of Islam.

In another part of his speech, the foreign minister asked whether it was not time that the Islamic governments put an end to the domination of foreign powers in Islamic countries through adopting a coordinated policy so that the divine dignity of Muslims would be restored.

More on Velayati Speech

LD080047 Tehran IRNA in English 1745 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec. 7, IRNA — Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said here Tuesday that if the Islamic foreign ministers conference was going to discuss the Iraqi imposed war, first of all it had to condemn the aggressor.

Velayati currently attending the ongoing 14th conference of foreign ministers [word indistinct] the Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO) added that in debating the Iraqi imposed war, the conference had to introduce to world as a war criminal the one who drops chemical bombs on civilians. [Passage indistinct]

"We expect the conference, by applying Islamic teachings and injunctions, will look into the conduct of the aggressor and will evaluate the invader and the invaded, on equal terms." He also stressed that the conference should not issue any resolution without studying the root causes of the Iraq imposed war.

Velayati told supporters that Iran would reject any stance adopted by any individual or international organisation that failed to observe right and justice. He also hoped the ICO, on the basis of its past (three years) experiences with the Islamic Republic of Iran, would deal with the issue in a humanitarian and Islamic manner.

Commenting on the rift within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), he said that Iran wanted all Palestinian militants to unite against the Zionist allies headed by the U.S..

After the clashes in northern Lebanon, he said that the political delegations dispatched by the Islamic Republic of Iran to Syria and Lebanon had useful talks there, which has created hopes in settlement of the conflict.

Speaking on [word indistinct] of the readmission of Egypt and Afghanistan to the ICO, Velayati said that membership of Egypt was suspended following signing of the Camp David accord. Since the Egyptian Government pursued its policy of compromise with the regime occupying [word indistinct] and continued to keep away from the ranks of the Muslims, there was no reason that it could rejoin the organisation, he said.

On Afghanistan he said that Muslims were being massacred in that country by the subservient regime of the Soviet aggressor forces. He added that Islam was trampled upon in Afghanistan and therefore representation of this country in the ICO by the Karmal regime [word indistinct] be a measure against Islam.

More on Yaqub Khan Address

BK080729 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Addressing the plenary session of the Islamic foreign ministers conference in Dhaka today, the Pakistan foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, said the security of the Islamic ummah [community] is of paramount importance to all of us. A threat to one Islamic nation must be treated as a threat to all. He asserted that the Islamic world could stand up to the challenges faced by them only by collective and concerted action. Since President Mohammad Ziaul Haq's proposal for (?strengthening) solidarity of the Islamic states has been endorsed, he hoped that necessary modalities and mechanism to implement the recommendations of the experts group would be worked out at the conference.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in his speech touched on all major problems faced by the Muslim world, particularly Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, Cyprus, Palestine, and the Middle East. He called for the establishment of an effective mechanism for a review, appraisal, and coordination of the implementation of the initiatives taken by the OIC and its subsidiary bodies.

Referring to Afghanistan, the foreign minister said a number of crucial issues, particularly the timeframe for withdrawal of foreign troops and consultations with the refugees regarding the conditions for their return remain to be resolved. He hoped that further negotiations would lead to an agreement acceptable to all parties concerned. Pakistan on its part, he added, made sincere efforts to seek a political solution of the Afghanistan problem. During the indirect talks under the UN auspices some progress had been achieved in identifying the elements of a comprehensive settlement. Conditions in Afghanistan are as bleak today as they were last year. About the Afghan refugees whose number in Pakistan had exceeded 3 million, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan said Pakistan would continue to perform its Islamic and humanitarian duty until they are able to return to their homes in safety and honor.

As regards Cyprus, the foreign minister strongly pleaded that the Islamic conference must give its earnest support to the (?activation) of the Turkish community in Cyprus and renew its call for the resumption of negotiations between the two communities to find a solution acceptable to both sides.

Referring to the Iran-Iraq war, he said it continued to be a source of deep concern and anguish to the Muslim world and hoped that this war between the two brotherly countries would come to an end.

The foreign minister also underscored the urgent need for cooperation in the economic field among Islamic states. The solution to the existing economic problems and deprivations, he added, lay in the implementation of the Islamic (?plan) of action to strengthen economic cooperation among member states. In this context, he urged the conference to consider the establishment of a [words indistinct] to deal more effectively with the most important economic issues confronting the ummah.

Kuwaiti Minister's Address

LD080006 Kuwait KUNA in English 1853 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 7, (KUNA) — Kuwait Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ahmad Sa'd al-Jasir urged the Islamic world here Wednesday to rally all potentials in face of schemes perpetrated by "the Zionist enemy and its allies."

In an address to the foreign Islamic ministers meeting here, Al-Jasir said that these hostile forces will alter their plans if they were sure they will meet an Islamic joint determination for struggle in defense of a just cause and for the restoration of legitimate rights. "The heroic uprising in the occupied territories should encourage us to stick to our just cause," the minister underlined. Al-Jasir highlighted his country's stress on the importance of coordinating the Islamic Conference Organization to help it implement its noble goals as aspired for by the Islamic peoples.

The Kuwait official reviewed current Palestinian developments and underscored that recent events should pose an additional factor to strengthen the Islamic world's support of that issue which is the core of joint Islamic endeavor.

The minister called on the 14th Islamic ministerial meeting to study reasons for the fighting in north Lebanon so as to determine means of avoiding future problems. He affirmed that escalation of crises in the Islamic nation should not have a negative impact "on our belief in our just cause and our commitment to back the people of Palestine."

Al-Jasir called on the conferees to put an immediate end to Iraq-Iran war and asserted that such an action should be viewed as falling in line with Islamic jihad (holy struggle) in order to carry out the higher interests of the Islamic nation by means of closing ranks and shelving disputes among Moslem brothers. Al-Jasir praised Iraq's positive rsponse to Islamic mediation bids and appealed to Iran to allow more opportunities for the success of such efforts. Kuwait strongly backs the continuance of efforts launched by the Islamic Mediation Committee formed by the third Islamic summit conference, the minister emphasized.

He called on the Soviet Union to withdraw its forces from Afghanistan so that Moslems in that country would be able to decide their future destiny without any foreign intervention.

Jasir underscored his country's readiness to back any resolution unanimously approved by the Islamic community through this conference.

Draft Resolution on Cyprus

BK081048 Hong Kong AFP in English 1027 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 8 (AFP) — A draft resolution that recommends not recognizing the self-proclaimed Turkish state in northern Cyprus has been introduced in the current Islamic foreign ministers conference meeting here, conference sources said today. The resolution reaffirms "solidarity with the people of Cyprus" and calls for revival of "inter-communal negotiations" between the Greek and Turkish communities, the sources said. It emphasizes holding talks between the two communities on an equal footing leading towards the creation of a "bi-zonal federation" of Cyprus, they said.

The Turks in the northern part of Cyprus declared unilateral independence on November 15. It was widely speculated that the so-called republic would seek diplomatic recognition from the Islamic world.

The secretary general of the 44-member Islamic Conference Organization (ICO), Habib Chatti, told reporters here yesterday that the Turkish Cypriots had observer's status at the conference and were attending as a "movement."

Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja told the [word indistinct] that [words indistinct] that somehow the efforts of the Turkish Cypriots to seek a peaceful settlement acceptable to both the parties have been resisted, and ("we can therefore understand the desperate situation they have found themselves in.)

The sources said the resolution is being discussed by the political committee, which started meeting yesterday.

Habib Chatti Briefing

BK080815 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] The Islamic foreign ministers will start item-wise discussions in plenary session on the 3d day of their 5-day conference in Dhaka today. All four conference committees will also hold separate sessions today. After yesterday's deliberations the OIC secretary general, Habib Chatti, said the Dhaka conference assumed great importance in view of the grave developments in the Islamic world in particular.

Replying to a question during the press briefing at the media center of the conference yesterday evening, he said an Afghan mujahidin delegation had been invited to the conference, but no representative yet arrived. The Turkish Cypriots, he said, had been given observer status as a movement. On the Gulf war, the secretary general said the conference is likely to discuss the report of the Islamic good-will mission which remained suspended since one of the parties had not accepted the earlier proposals. He said that the foreign ministers are expected to come up with new ideas and recommendations for ending the fratricidal war between Iran and Iraq. He said the current factional fighting within the PLO is also on the agenda and the foreign ministers are expected to come up with certain recommendations.

Replying to another question, Mr Chatti said the Constitution of Islamic Court of Justice is to be adopted by the Dhaka conference. The headquarter of the Islamic Court of Justice will be located in Kuwait.

On economic issues, the chief executive of the OIC said there are important items on the agenda. He said the OIC is working on the formation of a Islamic common market. The conference is expected to take steps toward achieving this common objective.

About the election of a new secretary general of the 44-nation organization, he said the foreign ministers have not yet discussed the question.

Conference Delegates Hold Meetings, Talks

Yaqub Khan Meetings

BK071221 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, met the chief martial law administrator of Bangladesh, Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad, in Dhaka today. Our special representative reports that he was the first foreign minister to call on the Bangladesh leader. This was a very cordial meeting and both desired further improvement of relations in all fields. Regional issues were also discussed. There were similarity of views regarding developments in the region.

General Ershad said he was looking forward keenly to meet the president of Pakistan in Casablanca.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan also met the head of Saudi delegation Shaykh Abdallah al-Mas'ud and discussed mainly conference matters. Afghanistan, Iran-Iraq war, and Cyprus were also discussed.

Iran-Syria Talks

LD071219 Tehran IRNA in English 1033 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec. 7, IRNA —Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran 'Ali Akbar Velayati said here Tuesday night [6 December] that the U.S. had (?pulled) its allies to Lebanon, adding that Lebanon would turn into a marsh for the United States (?worse) than Vietnam.

In a meeting with the Syrian delegation at the conference of foreign ministers of Islamic Conference Organisation [ICO] being held here, Velayati noted that U.S. aggressive attacks on Lebanon further showed its real future to the Arab and Muslim nations. He stressed that Muslim people of Lebanon, Palestine and Syria (?will n..) remain silent vis-a-vis this aggression.

Velayati, referring to the moves to return Egypt back to ICO, noted that this plot should strictly be confronted since reasons for the suspension of Egypt's membership, were still powerful.

Meanwhile, head of the Syrian delegation said that U.S. adventures were indicative of its failure in Lebanon, adding that the U.S. should expect more defeats in that country. The two sides also decided on further coordinating stances of progressive countries in the present Islamic Conference Organisation meet.

Meetings With Ershad

BK071212 Dhaka BSS in English 1124 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec 7 (BSS) — The secretary general of the Organization of Islamic Conference, Mr. Habib Chatti, and twelve foreign ministers and heads of delegations now attending the 14th Islamic conference of foreign ministers today separately called on the president of the Council of Ministers, Lt Gen H.M. Ershad.

The foreign ministers who met General Ershad are from Comoros, Guinea, Iran, Mali, Malaysia, Niger, Pakistan and Somalia. The heads of other delegations are from Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Qatar and PLO. The president of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Dr Ahmed Mohammad 'Ali also called on Gen. Ershad and stayed sometime with him.

Velayati, Ershad

GF071718 Tehran IRNA in English 1615 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Dhaka, Dec. 7, IRNA — Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati today, in a brief visit, met and held talks with head of the military government of Bangladesh, Gen. Ershad.

In similar developments, some other foreign ministers as well as heads of the delegations participating in the 14th Islamic conference organisation held separate talks with Gen. Ershad.

Ershad Reiterates Position on Elections

BK071255 Hong Kong AFP in English 1210 GMT 7 Dec 83

[By Richard Breeze]

[Excerpts] Dhaka, Dec 7 (AFP) — Bangladesh's military ruler Lieutenant General Hussain Mohammad Ershad was holding firm today on an election timetable which prompted a wave of unrest around the country last week.

The 54-year-old army chief said yesterday that he was willing to "talk anywhere, anytime" with political parties who oppose his plan to hold a presidential election in May and a parliamentary poll in November.

Political sources here noted that while Gen. Ershad offered talks with political parties he stressed that any such discussions should be on the basis of the suspended constitution. This gives the president wide powers and means that his original timetable stands — that parliamentary elections should come after the vote on the presidency, the sources said.

Gen. Ershad made his offer of talks with political parties in an address to employees of the government secretariat here, focus of the November 28 clashes. One employee died when police opened fire and one was wounded, officials said.

Gen. Ershad announced compensation of 50,000 taka (2,000 dollars) for the family of the dead employee and 2,000 taka (800 dollars) for the wounded man.

He also disclosed that a hospital would soon be built for the employees and that "other problems" of civil servants would be looked into. Well-informed sources said that government employees had been angered by the killing of one of their colleagues in the clash.

Text of Commonwealth Summit's Goa Declaration

BK071220 Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 28 Nov 83 pp 1, 9

[From M.L. Kotru]

[Excerpt] The following is the text of the "Commonwealth Goa declaration on international security":

"As we meet together in India at the end of 1983, representing a quarter of the world's people, from every continent and many regions, we have shared both our concerns and our hopes for international security. Despite differences of approach which affect the way we analyse and judge events, it is our perception that relationships between the world's major military alliances are in danger of becoming more confrontational. In the context of heightened tensions and the continuing build up of nuclear arsenals, the future of civilization as we know it, could be threatened. None of our countries or peoples would be insulated from that fate.

"We are alarmed by the increasing disregard for the moral and legal principles which should govern the conduct of States, by the degree to which the ethic of peaceful settlement of disputes is being eroded and by the readiness of nations to resort to the illegal use of force. At this time of crisis, we believe it to be imperative that the Soviet Union and the United States Union and the United States should summon up the political vision of a world in which their nations can live in peace. Their first objective must be to work for the resumption of a genuine political dialogue between themselves leading to relaxation of tensions.

"We believe that Commonwealth Governments can make a practical contribution in encouraging them to do so and in promoting a larger measure of international udnerstanding than now exists. Essential to that enlargement of understanding is the need to increase contacts at a variety of levels between the Governments and the peoples of the East and the West. A concerted effort is required to restore constructive dialogue to the conduct of East-West relations.

"Only thus, can a climate of confidence be rebuilt in place of the prevailing one of fear and mistrust. In all these pursuits, we emphasize the supreme importance of political will. We, therefore, welcome Prime Minister Trudeau's call for a new political dimension in the quest for international security. We support his efforts to restore active political contact and communication among all the nuclear weapon powers and are willing to help these and other such efforts in all appropriate ways.

"As Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has so consistently emphasized, the central issue in securing wider progress on disarmament is the stopping of the nuclear arms race. These are essential steps for progress and working towards the world's relief from the menace of nuclear weapons and their wider spread. If the resources released by disarmament were ploughed back in some measure into world development, the needs of the developing countries, which are in the forefront of our concern, could be significantly met.

"We are concerned also over the diminishing capacity of international institutions. They play an effective role in world affairs. Rejecting that negative trend, we pledge our renewed support for the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter. There is, in our views, an urgent need to consider what practical steps can be taken to strengthen the United Nations system and to improve its capacity to fulfil the objectives of the charter.

"We are particularly concerned at the vulnerability of small States to external attacks and interference in their affairs. These countries are members of the international community which must respect their independence and at the very least have a moral obligation to provide effectively for their territorial integrity.

"We have separately agreed on an urgent study of these issues. Additionally, however, we will play our part in helping the international community to make an appropriate response to the United Nations Secretary-General's call for strengthening of collective security in keeping with the charter.

"Meeting here in India, we cannot emphasize too strongly our belief that the ethic of non-violence must be at the heart of all efforts to ensure peace and harmony in the world. That ethic requires close adherence to the principle of peaceful settlement. Only by such a commitment on all sides will the world's people enjoy an environment of true international security. Finally, we retain faith in human capacity to overcome the dangers and difficulties that threaten the world, and to secure for all its people the prospects of a more peaceful international environment. We shall work together to fulfil that faith."

Rao Appraises Outcome of Commonwealth Summit

BK061717 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Dec 83

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, has asserted that the recent Commonwealth conference has served a useful purpose. Replying to a 5-hour-long debate on the present international situation in the Lok Sabha today, Mr Rao said that the documents issued at the end of the Commonwealth conference do not in any way go counter to India's policies or the stand of the Nonaligned Movement on various issues. Mr Rao, however, agreed that there were differences amongst Commonwealth leaders on certain issues and these were clearly indicated in the document.

Referring to the economic aspect of the communique, Mr Rao said that there has been a forward movement. The deliberations in the Commonwealth summit can be viewed as a mini-North-South dialogue. It is also significant that a developed country like New Zealand took the lead in demanding a conference on money and finance. This is exactly what the nonaligned summit also wanted.

On Namibia, the Commonwealth summit has said everything that was mentioned in the Nonaligned Movement document. It is significant that Britain and Canada, who are members of the

contact group, endorsed these views. On the question of Grenada also, the Commonwealth summit clearly indicated that there is no place for any foreign troops. The document no doubt has not named anyone as aggressor. But this was the case in other instances like Afghanistan, which figured in the nonaligned declaration.

The foreign minister expressed satisfaction on the developments in Sri Lanka while briefly recounting the discussions between President Jayewardene and Mrs Gandhi. He said that the all-party conference being convened by Mr Jayewardene will include Tamil United Liberation Front. Mr Rao hoped that a settlement would be arrived at soon within the framework of Sri Lanka's unity and integrity. India's good offices will be available whenever they are needed.

On the situation in West Asia, Mr Rao said that the Palestinian question is central to the whole problem. It is our attempt to bring the Palestinian question into focus. His recent mission to Kuwait and Damascus to sort out the internal fight of the PLO is an attempt in this direction.

The house later rejected a substitute motion by Dr Subramaniam Swamy, Janata, demanding that the government change its present policy on the neighboring countries and maintain equidistance from the two superpowers.

Earlier, several members from both opposition and ruling parties expressed divergent views on India's foreign policy and the international situation. While opposition members accused the government of compromising on its foreign policy, the ruling party members maintained that the policy of nonalignment pursued by India has stood the test of time and has enhanced the prestige of the country in the comity of nations.

Initiating the debate, Mr Satyasharan Chakroberty, CPI-M, demanded that India should come out of the Commonwealth. He said that the CHOGM [Commonwealth heads of government meeting] declaration has diluted the progressive objective set out by the nonaligned summit in the economic sphere and it also failed to condemn the U.S. aggression on Grenada. Countering his arguments, a Congress-I member said that if India leaves the Commonwealth it will not serve any purpose. On the other hand India's presence in the Commonwealth will improve the prospects for world peace.

An opposition member felt that India's foreign policy has not been successful, particularly with neighboring countries. Refuting the allegation, a Congress-I member said that the Pakistani misconception of the sympathies expressed by Indian leaders over the events in that country has caused a setback to the ties.

Coverage of Indian-Soviet Economic Talks

Joint Chamber of Commerce Proposed

BK071654 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] India has proposed the formation of a joint Indo-Soviet chamber of commerce to expand trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. The proposal was made by the commerce minister, Mr Vishwanath Pratap Singh, during his talks with the visiting first Soviet deputy prime minister, Mr Arkhipov, in New Delhi today.

Mr Arkhipov said the cooperation restricted to heavy industry so far can now be enlarged to light industry also.

Minister Talks With Arkhipov

BK080700 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] The Soviet Union is to finalize soon the proposal for procuring machinery equipment from India's two public sector units, the Heavy Engineering Corporation of Ranchi and Mining and Allied Machineries Corporation of Durgapur. The machinery is to be supplied during 1985. This was indicated by the first deputy prime minister of the Soviet Union, Mr Arkhipov, during talks with the industries minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, in New Delhi.

High Commission in Dhaka Concerned Over Security

BK071437 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] The Indian high commission in Dhaka has said that New Delhi's policy has consistently been not to interfere in the internal affairs of bangladesh. In a press statement, the high commission said that India has already conveyed to Bangladesh its distress and regret over certain incidents around the office of the deputy high commissioner of Bangladesh in Calcutta early this month. All the necessary measures have been taken for the protection of the mission personnel and property.

The statement expressed the confidence that steady improvement and further consolidation of relations with Bangladesh will not be interrupted by these incidents.

Proposal on Canal With Bangladesh Considered

BK071646 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] India and Bangladesh are considering a proposal for the Brahmaputra-Ganga link canal. The canal will pass through both the countries and serve their interest. This was stated by the minister of state for irrigation, Mr Mirdha, in the Rajya Sabha. He said Bangladesh is not building any dam across the Tista, but it is going ahead with a barrage project on the river.

Parliament Informed of Talks on Sri Lanka Tamils

BK080920 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] The Lok Sabha has been told that the prime minister had four meetings with the Tamil United Liberation Front [TULF] leaders on the ethnic problems in Sri Lanka during their recent visits to Delhi. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Rahim, said there had been some progress in the talks between

President Jayewardene and the TULF leaders through India's good offices. Some ideas have emerged in these talks which can form a basis of a solution to the problem. President Jayewardene has announced that he intends to place these proposals before an all-party conference which may include TULF representation.

Mr Rahim informed the house that though the situation in Sri Lanka continues to be tense, there are no reports of violence since July this year.

AFP: Police Comb Amritsar for Sikh Extremists

BK080032 Hong Kong AFP in English 0012 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] New Delhi, Dec 7 (AFP) — Police and para-military forces detained eight suspects during an intensive combing operation they launched in Amritsar today to track down the extremists involved in several violent incidents there in recent weeks, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported. The drive started earlier in the day and was continuing late tonight as the last reports came in.

PTI said the security forces also searched over 40 houses as a large number of their heavily armed colleagues cordoned off at least three localities in the city namely Sharipura, Hussainpura and Tahsilpura. But the suspected extremist Sikhs struck again even as the combing operation was in progress in the holiest Sikh city in Punjab, rocked by the greater political autonomy movement of the minority community.

PTI said three unidentified gunmen looted a commercial bank of 145,000 rupees (about 14,500 US dollars). No immediate arrest was reported.

Meanwhile, the Punjab Hindu Wangathan (Hindu Protection Association) today called upon the Hindu community in that state and neighbouring Himachal Pradesh and Haryana to observe "save the religion (Hindu) day" on Sunday next. Announcing this, the Sangathan president, Virendra, told a press conference in Jullundur in Punjab that neither the government nor any political party would help them save their religion. They should organise themselves to protect it.

Mr Virendra was apparently referring to the recent incident of two massacres of Hindus or attacks on some of their temples. Also militant religious leader Sant Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale was reportedly warned of dire consequences to the Hindus if the Sikhs in other states were driven away from there.

The first incident was in early October in which six people were killed and the second on November 18 last when four were shot dead.

Official Departs for 3-Day Visit to Argentina

BK071537 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Excerpt] The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Rahim, left New Delhi today for Argentina on a 3-day visit. He will represent India at the celebrations to mark the assumption of office by Mr Raul Alfonso, as the first civilian president of Argentina on Friday.

Delhi Reports Marchers Stopped Outside Islamabad

BK081252 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Text] A large number of marchers from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir were prevented by the police today from entering Islamabad. The marchers, who came from Rawalkot, reached the twin city of Rawalpindi yesterday, but police have blocked all roads to Islamabad. The marchers are planning to hold a demonstration in the capital against military rule.

NAWA-E WAQT Urges Preliminaries for Elections

GF070900 Karachi NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 26 Nov 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Talk of Elections"]

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has said that elections are always political. Even if it is decided to hold elections on a nonparty basis, political parties and their members can still participate. He was talking to correspondents at Lahore Airport yesterday when most of the questions put to him pertained to the elections which have been the main subject of discussion since his address on 12 August.

It is natural for general elections to have fundamental and unusual importance. The demand for early elections has now become a common demand. When President Zia announced a program for elections and delegation of power by March 1985 with a completion of all its concomitant phases in his 12 August address, the public clamor was that 1984 be declared the year of general elections.

It is true that legally all political parties are defunct and there is a restriction on their activities, but in reality, meetings are held by political leaders and members of parties wherein the leaders and members get together and discuss ways and means for achieving political unions. While campaigns are being initiated for early elections, why are there no preparations for elections by the political parties?

The cry for the lifting of restrictions from political parties is important in itself and the authorities should ponder over it in a sympathetic manner. As the activities of the political parties continue to take place directly or indirectly, then why is it that the homework of the political parties is not being done and why are these restrictions being used as an excuse for this lackadaisical attitude? It would not be irrelevant to say that the greater the speed with which the political parties prepare for elections, the closer will the date for the elections come.

Those decisions which are necessary for the caravan of elections to go on the road again are important on their own and those who are clamoring for early elections must keep up their demands. With the passage of time, the elections are becoming imperative and the political parties should be aware of this and attend to the necessary preliminaries and should initiate the relevant measures. All their efforts should not be spent on the demand forearly elections. When the bell announces the start of the elections, they will then realize that they are unprepared.

This is not supposition. It is merely necessary to recall the performance of some major parties and those which set up united fronts and their efforts in nominating candidates and distributing their papers and which was a source of amazement to all.

MASHRIQ on 'Misleading Soviet Propaganda'

GF021300 Karachi MASHRIQ in Urdu 25 Nov 83 p 3

[Editorial: Misleading Soviet Propaganda]

[Text] The mass media of the Soviet Union (Moscow Radio, regional publication departments, news agencies, TASS,and *IZVESTIYA* and other newspapers and magazines) have stepped up a campaign of misleading propaganda against Pakistan. Pakistan has taken serious notice of this and has in an official statement clarified the true facts about the news which form the basis of Soviet propaganda. This has been done to remove doubts from the minds of the Soviet people and also to improve relations with the Soviet Government.

However, our past experiences show that the campaign by the official organs of the Soviet Union and on the official level is usually a forerunner of some big undertaking. The zeal and fervor with which the Soviet mass media had supported and encouraged the secessionist elements in East Pakistan and the way in which, after the fall of Dhaka, it had given assurances of support to the "liberation movements" in connection with Baluchestan, are still fresh in the minds of patriotic Pakistani people.

In fact, after the invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet forces, whenever the question of Afghanistan came up for discussion in any international arena, the Soviet mass media always stepped up its campaign against Pakistan. This time they stepped up their campaign of baseless and misleading propaganda when a series of efforts toward vandalism, sabotage, and violence were going on in some areas of Sind. With this background,it is not difficult to fathom the object and purpose of the propaganda. The report which the U.S. Administration experts' committee had submitted to the various congressional committees on the subject of military movements on the southern borders of the Soviet Union reveals fully the future aims and objectives of this superpower in Asia, particularly in the Gulf, the Middle East, and South Asia.

There is a force of more than 500,000 troops on the southern borders of the Soviet Union facing the Persian Gulf and this has created threats for all the countries in the area. This report has also noted Indian-Soviet collusion and it is said that after invading Afghanistan, the Soviet Union in its global interests, is now giving special importance to India. Pakistani rulers should keep these things in mind and just as it has very tactifully kept the world opinion informed of the true facts with respect to Afghanistan, it should expose fully the Soviet propaganda and intentions.

SRI LANKA

Marchers End Walk After Jayewardene Request

BK071309 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] The organizers of the Sarbodaya peace walk agreed yesterday to call off their march on the instructions of President Jayewardene. Mr Jayewardene requested them to consider calling off the march as an all-party conference had been summoned to find a solution to the problem.

The peace walk organized by the Sarbodaya movement was aimed at consolidating unity and friendship among all the communities in Sri Lanka. The marchers participated in a religious ceremony at the (Tish) Society at (Tishrama) yesterday. President Jayewardene also participated in the ceremony.

Requesting the organizers to call off their march, the president said that peace and unity among the people was necessary for their progress. Lord Buddha, Christ, and other religious leaders had pointed out in their teachings how people should lead good life.

AFP Says TULF May Be Invited to All-Party Talks

BK081014 Hong Kong AFP in English 0850 GMT 8 Dec 83

[Excerpt] Colombo, Dec 8 (AFP) — The separatist Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) will be invited to a proposed all-party conference to resolve ethnic differences only if there is general agreement to do so by other parties, an authoritative government source said.

At the initial conference expected to be held within the next two weeks, President Junius Jayewardene is expected to ask the various political parties present whether the TULF should be invited, the source said.

President Jayewardene told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE earlier at the Commonwealth summit in New Delhi last month that he would invite the TULF if the all-party conference he hoped to summon wanted the Tamil party advocating separatism to be present.

Government sources also said that the two proscribed parties, the Janata Vimukti Peramuna (Peoples Liberation Front — JVP) and the Nava Samasamaja Party (New Socialist Party — NSSP) will not be invited to the conference.

These two parties, along with the Moscow-leaning communist party, were banned at the height of last July's racial violence in which several hundred people, most of them minority Tamils, were killed.

The government accused the three parties of direct involvement in the racial disturbances and arrested several of the party stalwarts.

Although the ban on the communist party was later lifted and its detainees released, the proscription of the JVP and NSSP continues with their leaders still in hiding.

The government has also decided to expand participation at the conference by inviting leaders of various religions and other dignitaries to attend.

There are 12 recognised political parties, including the JVP and NSSP. It is not clear yet whether all of them, except for the banneed parties, will be asked to attend or only main political groups.

Khomeyni Speech to Health Ministry Officials

LD071637 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 83

[26-minute speech by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni at a meeting with Health Ministry officials at Jamaran Mosque in Tehran on 7 December — recorded]

[Excerpts] You may notice now what is going on in Lebanon and what is befalling the population there. This is because of those people who have gone there for peace. The United States, France, Britain, and Italy have gone there to establish peace, but instead they have started a war. They have started a war in a place where, if they had not been there, tranquillity would have been established in a much better way. If it had not been for the U.S. presence and if there had been no pressure on the people, these unfortunate people who are subjected to all this pressure would have ultimately achieved something.

In bringing and imposing all this pressure on the nations, you should not expect them to sit idly by and congratulate you. Of course, there are these explosions, and they are the continuation of that very attitude. These in turn were followed by these bombings which they inflicted on the people, and the United States perpetrated so much corruption there, and the U.S. agents, among whom are the Zionists — and also France may be listed as one of them — these people have come over on the pretext of maintaining peace in the region. See for yourselves how much corruption they have inflicted on the region!

On the one hand, the Soviet Union on the pretext of establishing peace in Afghanistan has come along and for many years — it is some 5 years — it has been kindling fire in Afghanistan. On the other, the United States, too, comes along and claims to have come for peace but perpetrates corruption. I do not know whether you have heard the story about a little boy who was being hugged by a hideous looking servant whose face was such as to arouse terror among children, and the poor boy was crying with fear, but the man kept saying: Do not be scared, I am here. So the boy said to him: Sir, I am scared of you! [laughter] So now these superpowers have come to Afghanistan, telling the people: Do not be scared, we are here. And the others also say: Do not be scared, we are here.

We should thus pay attention to the fact that these superpowers who claim that "we have come for peace" and are unfortunately crushing the Arabs in their homes, while the Arabs are just watching. What are the Arabs to do with this shame, whereby the foreigners, the infidels, the aliens deliberately commit aggression against the Arabs in their own homes while these people are watching this as onlookers at a time when, if they were to bar the way to them for 10 days they would all surrender? If the Islamic countries, the selfsame countries of the region, the selfsame Gulf states in the region were to turn off their oil taps for 10 days the whole world would utter a cry, the world would starve. But these people offer their oil on a platter; they offer their good name on a platter; they offer their country; they offer their nation on a platter. For what? To further their base desires. The world is being destroyed by base desires. It is base desire prompting the Soviet Union to go to Afghanistan to perpetrate those deeds. It is base desires that prompt the United States to go to Lebanon to commit those acts and to delegate its agents in Iran to perpetrate these acts of corruption.

The superpowers are responsible for all world corruption. For otherwise, Saddam would not have the least importance; he is a dead body who is no longer of any importance. But it is the superpowers that are perpetrating corruption. It was because of their acts of corruption that they turned him into a plaything, turned him into a blockhead, so that he attacked Iran, committed aggression against Iran, but now he does not know what to do. So he keeps screaming: Come on, let us make peace! He wants to obtain a respite in order to embark immediately on another wicked act. But we know him better than anyone else. It is not because he desires peace in that way. What man could make peace with an enemy who is the enemy of Islam, the foe of God, the enemy of his own nation, the foe of our own nation, and give him respite so that once again he might be encouraged, and so that the superpowers would also render him aid in order to renew the attack on us? One cannot give him respite. His evil should be extirpated in order to save the region. And the governments of this region could extirpate the evil of these people from their region. If these governments were to rally with their nations — and the nations are ready — and if the governments were to yield to their nations, superpowers could not perpetrate these acts of corruption. Israel could not come along and perpetrate wickedness. But unfortunately it is we who are responsible for opening the way to the superpowers.

The superpowers have gone into Lebanon, the home of the Arabs — they have gone into the home of the Arabs and are perpetrating such crimes against the Arabs themselves. Yet the Arabs are sitting idly by without saying anything. They should all know that the people will no longer sit idly by while these acts are perpetrated. The selfsame thing that happened in Iran will take place in the Peninsula in the end. They should start thinking from now.

The United States should not imagine that it can impose its oppression on the people, and that they will sit idly by. The United States saw how the White House was exploded, and how their young men were exploded. The same thing continues now. No matter how much you may attempt to prevent this state of affairs, the people have become fed up. The Lebanese people are fed up. The Palestinian people are fed up. And thus they are committing suicide. When a person is not fed up, he will not commit suicide in order to drive you out from his soil. The people cannot tolerate this. Who are you to do such things? Nothing can be achieved with killing, plundering, and bullying. You should let the people carry out their work. Leave the people alone. The Muslims will at long last rely on themselves and will wake up. If the oppressed were to start thinking, they would cut off the hands of these people.

I hope that Almighty and Blessed God will awaken the Muslim nations, will awaken the meek nations whereby they themselves will manage their own lives and will cut off the hands of the superpowers. [shouts of approval] May peace and God's mercy be upon you. [applause]

IRNA Cites Nateq-Nuri on Afghan Refugees

GF071636 Tehran IRNA in English 1558 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 7, IRNA — Interior Minister 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri today reiterated the government's pledge to firmly confront criminals among 1.7 million Afghan refugees in Iran.

Speaking after a Cabinet meeting, the minister said that a circular had been dispatched to all provincial governors ordering them to deport Afghanis who have refused to receive identity cards. He said the Afghan refugees had been forced to leave their homeland because of the oppressions of the Kabul regime. But he said that the crimes being committed by a small number of Afghanis were aimed at disrupting other Afghan refugees. Those Afghanis who refuse to receive identity cards are either unwilling to cooperate with the Islamic Republic or they feel that their position would be endangered by holding these cards. All governor offices in the country have been ordered to prepare for deporting any Afghani who refuses identity card and is inclined to leave, Mr. Nateq-Nuri told reporters.

On Tuesday, the interior minister said that in addition to a Soviet conspiracy to portray the Afghan refugees as bandits and criminals, there seem to be some American spies in their ranks in Iran as well.

He also said that the Cabinet had been informed of the efforts of the workers at Esfahan's steel plant, who will boost production from 500,000 tons to 1.9 million tons a year with the inauguration of its second long [as received] furnace.

U.S. Preparation for 'Confrontation' Viewed

LD072001 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0445 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] According to the reports we have received, yesterday the war ministry of the great satan, like the buildings of the foreign ministry and the White House, was placed under intense security measures due to various threats. According to this report, the number of police who are in charge of guarding the White House and American ministry of foreign affairs have been increased and visitors to those buildings have to undergo more careful scrutiny. Also the number of sand and water trucks which have been stationed around the White House since a week ago has been considerably increased.

It should be stated that these measures were adopted a few hours after 24 American fighter-bombers bombed Syrian positions in Lebanon. It should also be noted that these security measures adopted for protecting centers of crime in Washington reveal the fear felt these days by the officials of that country due to repeated crimes of imperialists, especially in the Middle East. After the failure of diplomatic tricks for suppressing the resistence of the masses, the militaristic ruling circles in America are trying to escalate their aggressive military operations throughout the world from Latin America to Lebanon and to pave the way for a full fledged military confrontation, especially in the Middle East. The invasion of Grenada by aggressive American forces and the occupation of that tiny island, as well as the increase in direct military clashes in Lebanon, all point to this vile intention of the militarists ruling over America.

However, these crimes have met everywhere with valiant responses by the oppressed nations. The repeated blows dealt at imperialism by the resistance forces in Lebanon, including the Syrian and Palestinian forces as well as deprived Muslims of that region, show that the nations are no longer afraid of the superpowers and that the deprived people are determined to regain their lost rights through a hard battle with the aggressive enemy. This is what has frightened the imperialists more than ever before.

Therefore, it can be argued that the security measures adopted around the White House, the Pentagon, America's foreign ministry, and the Elysee Palace in France and other decisionmaking centers of the great satan are due to this fear. However, in view of imperialism's vast experience in military and security issues and in view of the ultramodern technology of that country for the protection of its palaces, one may to some extent suspect the types of security measures adopted by the Americans. Can it be that the Pentagon, America's war machine, which is making use of ultramodern technology in the remotest parts of the world to implement its vile militaristic goals, is not able to protect its own palaces of crime in a more subtle and more sophisticated manner? The answer is certainly positive.

However, it seems that by placing a few trucks and water tanks in front of various palaces, the American police are pursuing another goal and carrying out a duty entrusted to them by CIA experts. With these acts, accompanied by an extensive propaganda campaign through imperialist media and satellites, the CIA experts are orchestrating the psychological-political struggles of imperialism against liberation movements which are at the moment clearly represented by the Islamic movement in the Middle East, so that they can thus alert the American public to the growing Islamic threat and to receive from the public license for their presence and for a direct military confrontation in the Middle East, the birthplace of the Islamic movement.

As the result of the failure of all political and economic measures taken by imperialism, even of indirect military intervention carried out through the aggressive Iraqi regime against our country, American imperialism is trying to pave the way for a military confrontation with Islamic Iran by making psychological preparations. These psychological preparations have been carried out in various ways over the past years. The latest approach is the one adopted by White House leaders with the assistance of the imperialist mercenary media. After numerous explosions were aimed by Lebanese-Palestinian forces against American presence in Lebanon, America portrayed these events as terrorist acts and tried to arouse public emotions over the deaths of a number of American mercenaries in the region. It also blamed Iran for these moves in order to prepare public opinion for the acceptance of a direct military invasion against our country.

In our view, the steps taken during the past 2 weeks in connection with the so-called strict security measures for protecting American centers of crime such as the White House, as well as the

spreading of rumors that these measures were adopted following the alleged threats by the sympathizers of the Islamic Revolution of Iran to blow up those centers, are all parts of a psychological warfare America is waging throughout the world and at home against the Islamic movement and the Iranian Revolution.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,566

LD071736 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Communique No 1,566 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] In His exalted name. The forces yesterday defended their positions in the northwestern, western, and southern operational sectors and inflicted losses and casualties on the enemy. Thanks to the fire of our artillery units in the Piranshahr, Hajj 'Umran, and Sar Dasht regions, the movements of the enemy infantry troops and vehicles were halted, several slit trenches and foxholes of the Saddamist forces were destroyed, one of the enemy's military buildings was damaged, and a number of the troops deployed in it were either killed or wounded.

The combatants of Islam monitored enemy movements in the Marivan operational section by dispatching patrols and through observation. The fire of the combatants of Islam on the enemy positions in this sector destroyed seven vehicles and several trenches of the Iraqi infantry troops.

Firing continued on the border fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam and was more intense in the Qasr-e Shirin, Mehran, Meymak, and Sumar regions. Our combative units in the region opposite Qasr-e Shirin opened fire on the enemy infantry personnel who were busy digging trenches and consolidating their positions. The fire of the combatants of Islam in this region halted the trench-digging activities of the enemy personnel.

Sporadic fire was exchanged on the southern fronts yesterday, becoming more intense in the Kushk sector. On all the southern fronts, by dispatching patrol and ambush groups, setting up observation posts, and opening timely fire, our forces controlled the enemy movements and prevented them from carrying out any operations.

[Signed] Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran

IRNA Reports on Fighting in Bakhtaran

LD071146 Tehran IRNA in English 0953 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Bakhtaran, Dec. , IRNA — Ten Iraqi soldiers were killed and another ten wounded in battlefronts in Bakhtaran throughout Monday. The Iranian forces also levelled three small and larger breastworks as well as one surveillance post of the enemy forces in the battlefronts of the province yesterday.

Defense Minister: Val-Fajr To Continue

GF080610 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 19 Nov 83 P 1

[Speech by Defense Minister Colonel Mohammad Salimi to Friday prayers congregation at Babol, Mazandaran Province — date not given]

[Excerpt] One of the gifts of this war has been to learn about our neighbors. We tell the countries bordering the southern shores of the Persian Gulf that it is not in their interest to cooperate with the filthy Saddam in his last days of life. Do not let your cases become more voluminous.

At present the city of Sulaymaniyah and other cities of Iraq are within the artillery range of our combatants but we believe that we should not do what Saddam does with our cities. If Saddam and his Army commanders bombard the residential areas of our innocent people, they do so because the combat initiative has left their hands. I do not know whether bombardment of the cities is the work of the Baghdad commanders. This is a disgrace for the Pentagon. This is the humility and misfortune of the generals of East and West that they do the planning and also they give him arms and war hardware to carry out their plans.

Saddam, who during the first few days of war, under the orders of his masters wanted to speak from Ahvaz radio after conquering Khuzestan to hold an Arab summit in Susangerd, has now fallen into such difficult circumstances that he is extending his hand to any power in order to stay in power.

I give you good news here that within less than a month you will hear of very bright victories because it is the plan of the Supreme Defense Council and orders of the leadership to continue these Val-Fajr operations.

Velayati Discusses Hormuz, Foreign Relations

LD080958 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2330 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] The Lebanese magazine *(AL-WARA)* cites an interview with the foreign minister of our country and writes: Persian Gulf countries will have no reason to fear Iran if they refrain from assisting Saddam.

In this interview, Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati stated that if Iraq or any other country attack Iranian oil installations, Iran will close the Strait of Hormuz. The minister of foreign affairs added: It is quite clear that Iraq acting alone cannot deliver blows at our oil installations. If such an aggression does take place, it will be regarded as a declaration of war by the big powers against us. We would like to emphasize that if we are unable to export our oil that strait will be of no use to us and, therefore, we will close it. Continuing his remarks, he emphasized that the Islamic Republic of Iran is anxious to have strong relations with the Persian Gulf countries and that those countries would not need to fear Iran if they stopped assisting Saddam.

Referring to Iran's relations with Libya, he said: Our relations with Libya are strategic and are very strong. Libyan leader

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi sent a letter to President Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i through Sheykh ol-Eslam who recently visited Libya. The minister of foreign affairs continued: Having relations with countries that have differences of opinion with us does not mean that we accept their domination over us. We emphasize that to a great extent we have been successful in implementing our neither Eastern nor Western slogan. The Islamic Republic of Iran will support all Islamic movements that act in the service of nations. We defend genuine Islamic movements without interfering in other countries' internal affairs.

Concerning relations between Iran and Turkey, Velayati said: Our relations with that country are friendly and based on good neighborliness.

The foreign affairs minister said finally: The Nonaligned Movement has been changed into a multicolor organization. He added: We hope that one day these countries will follow that movement's correct line, like Nehru, Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir, and Tito.

Commander Reportedly Refused Khamene'i Order

GF050603 (Clandestine) Seda-ye Iran in Persian 1930 GMT 3 Dec 83

[Text] According to a report by informed sources, the main reason for the demotion of Colonel Mo'inpur, commander of the Islamic Republic Air Force, was his resistance to letting the Air Force take part in the recent clashes in the Panjwin area. These sources said Mo'inpur believed that the Islamic Republic's airplanes were not fit to take part in these operations. But Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of Khomeyni, did not pay attention to this advice and ordered the assistant commander of the Air Force to send these planes to the operational zone. As a result, two Islamic Republic planes crashed. These sources said:

Mo'inpur was demoted 2 weeks before he sent his resignation letter to Khamene'i.

Tudeh Party Trial Continues 7 December

LD071313 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] The second session of the trial of elements of the secret, treacherous, and defunct Tudeh Party started at 1020 today at the Islamic Revolution Court of the Armed Forces. The session was chaired by Mr Reyshahri.

Referring to the secret nature of intelligence matters in the Armed Forces and emphasizing that the divulgence of any kind of intelligence which might be harmful to the country is tantamount to espionage, the Islamic Revolution prosecutor of the Armed Forces, addressed [Former Navy Commander] Bahram 'Afzali. He said: Your file is full of intelligence matters which were passed on to foreigners through members of the Tudeh Party. Quoting remarks of Bahram 'Afzali and Ali Partovi made in the previous court session, Reyshahri considered as valid the charge of espionage against 'Afzali.

'Afzali, accepting the charges laid against him, said: I did not understand the order of the Islamic Republic as I should have done. I regard myself as guilty and sinful and I am repentent.

Later in the court session, Ali Partovi said: The espionage connection of the Tudeh Party with the Soviet Union began when the party was formed, but after the victory of the revolution a new dimension of espionage started in the country, and on the orders of the Soviet Union, [Tudeh Party Secretary General] Kianuri asked me to obtain secret military intelligence information of international significance and to pass it on to the Soviets. The Soviets were very insistent concerning this issue and I passed on this information to the party members who had infiltrated the Armed Forces, and 'Afzali provided some guidance. He added: 'Afzali provided details on missiles in the Persian Gulf and I passed it on to Kianuri.

Addressing 'Afzali, Mr Reyshahri said: In view of the remarks made by Partovi, do you accept that you were spying for the Soviets?

'Afzali replied: To a great extent this is so.

Later, the religious judge of the Islamic Revolution courts of the Armed Forces produced a list of the intelligence information 'Afzali had provided for the Soviet Union and the Tudeh Party. He said: This represents only a small fraction and demonstrates that we are dealing with espionage activities and that you were aware of an attempt to overthrow the Islamic Government.

In reply, 'Afzali said: I accept these allegations.

Nurreddin Kianuri, secretary general of the defunct and traitorous Tudeh Party, then said: We had foolish and childish thoughts; these espionage activities were treason against the Iranian people.

At the end of today's session, investigation into allegations against Bahram 'Afzali came to an end; investigation into the charges levelled against the rest of the accused was postponed to the next session.

No Verdict Announced

GF071652 Tehran IRNA in English 1637 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — The trial of former Iranian navy commander, Captain Bahram 'Afzali, ended today. The religious judge of the military tribunal, Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammadi Reyshahri did not mention when he would announce his verdict on the charges made against 'Afzali.

The next session of the tribunal will deliberate on the two other accused members of the secret military wing of the Tudeh party, Colonel Hushang Attarian and Colonel Bijan Kabiri, on Saturday.

In today's proceedings the prosecutor, Mr. Atabaki, and Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri questioned 'Afzali's statements in court Tuesday that he only guessed that the information he was providing the Tudeh Party was passed to the Soviet Union.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Reyshahri also read part of 'Afzali's written confession in prison that he had provided information about the change of military headquarters in the warfronts, reports on his meetings with the prime minister and the president, reports on war casualties, figures on oil sales, reports on the Khark island, foreign reserve figures, war operation, the number of the Islamic revolution's guards and others.

'Afzali said that he accepted everything he had said in his written confessions.

In today's trial, 'Afzali repeated his plea for pardon several times. He said he knew he was guilty and would accept any verdict issued by the court with open arms.

One of the high-ranking members of the secret military wing, Mahdi Partavi, said that since about the summer of 1979 Kianuri and the Soviet Union insisted on gathering military intelligence and information which had strategic importance.

He said that 'Afzali had full knowledge of these efforts and any ordinary person could understand that such information could only be useful to the Soviet Union.

Nureddin Kianuri, the secretary general of the defunct Tudeh Party, was also present in today's trial.

NVOI on 'Fake Courts' Trial of Tudeh Members

TA072036 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Unattributed commentary: "From Evin Slaughterhouse to Fake Military Court"]

[Excerpts] Dear compatriots: After screening CIA-fabricated television series and shows, rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran have started the trial of a number of leaders and members of the Iranian Tudeh Party in a repressive atmosphere and amid conditions in which, not only do they drag in chains and subject to torture individuals affiliated with revolutionary and dissenting forces, but every struggling and honest human being. In many respects, the revolutionary courts of the rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran bring to mind touching memories of the fake military courts of the era of the annihilated shah's rule.

At any rate, the Islamic Republic's fake courts have started proceedings for trying, or more precisely, for convicting individuals who were under physical and mental tortures for several months. The dear compatriots know that rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran are preventing the entry of foreign correspondents, and even relatives of the accused, inside this fake court. Now the question posed before every Iranian, whether Muslim or non-Muslim, especially those who may still be under the influence of the deceitful and religious appearance of the regime's leaders, is this: Why is the trial of these tortured individuals, who according to the eminent ayatollahs and Hojjats-Eslam have confessed to their guilt as well, taking place in closed courts? If these accused persons have really confessed to their so-called offenses, why do rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran who talk so much about the export of their notorious revolution, fear and dread world public opinion by revealing what is taking place in these fake courts?

They say: We do not care for world public opinion. They say: To us it is not important what correspondents and world mass media write about Iran and the deeds and acts of leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Although these childish claims are an indication that the logic of these gentlemen is (?shaky), let us for one moment accept even these baseless claims of the gentlemen. In this case, the question that arises is: Why are you preventing the entry of the people and the close and distant relatives of the accused to your fake courts?

If rulers of the Islamic Republic of Iran are entertaining the vain thought that with these SAVAKist stage managements, and with the aid of these fake courts, and in a medeival atmosphere of terror and fear they can lead to deadlock the scientific and world-encompassing views of the revolutionary dissenting forces, they are greatly mistaken.

Right now you are condemned before history, the people, and the world. Right now history and public opinion have stamped the seal of shame on your forehead. As long as a competent and open court is not held in our homeland, in the presence of a neutral international delegation, domestic and foreign correspondents, lawyers and close and distant relatives of the accused to try the imprisoned Tudehs, any charge, stage management, and verdicts by fake courts of the Islamic Republic of Iran's rulers do not have the slightest legal value in the people's view,, and are tantamount to the document of condemnation of the regime's rulers.

IRNA Relates Biographies of New Ministers

LD071235 Tehran IRNA in English 1044 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec 7, IRNA — Hoseyn Nili-Ahmadabadi was born in 1946 in Esfahan Province and acquired his early education from schools in that province. He received his engineering degree in electricity and electronics from Shiraz University in the Iranian year of 1354 (1975-76). In the same year he was appointed director of designing electronic equipment at Esfahan steel mill.

After the culmination of the Islamic revolution in 1979, Nili-Ahmadabadi was appointed head of the center for promotion of production and development services in Chahar Mahal Bakhtiar [spelling as received]. After two years he was appointed deputy governor general in charge of the political affairs in Chahar Mahal Bakhtiar. In the same year he was appointed managing director of the Esfahan steel mill and remained in the same post until his appointment as minister of mines and metals. He is married and is father of two children.

'Abbas 'Ali Zali was born in 1316 (1937-38) in Golpayegan, Esfahan province. He got his early education at schools in a village of Golpayegan. Simultaneously while pursuing college education at Esfahan training college he taught in public schools there. Later, he received a degree in the teaching profession.

After three years he moved to Karaj and joined the agricultural college there and received his B.S. degree in agriculture.

He later travelled abroad for higher education and also received scholarship from the ministry of culture on the basis of his grades.

He received his M.S. and PH.D. from the University in California in 1349 (1970-71). In 1350 (1971-72) he came back to Iran and started career as assistant and an associated professor at Tehran University where he continued until after one year of the victory of the Islamic revolution.

He was also affiliated with the reconstruction jihad of Karaj where he did valuable services.

In 1958 (1979-80) he was appointed acting minister of agriculture and rural development. He continued until his appointment as minister in the same ministry.

New Agricultural Minister Outlines Goals

GF071730 Tehran IRNA in English 1611 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Tehran, Dec. 7, IRNA — Agriculture Minister Dr. 'Abbas 'Ali Zali said in an interview today that reforms in the government administrative system were necessary in order to realise the objective of giving priority to agriculture in the country. He said such reforms were necessary because government administrative system was initially created to serve the cities.

Mr. Zali told IRNA after today's Majlis vote in support of his appointment as the new agriculture minister, that in order to provide more service to the rural areas, there was a need for some changes in the present policies and their implementation.

He said that the Agriculture Ministry had proposed a suitable administrative plan to the administrative and employment organisation but a fundamental step had not yet been taken to consider the proposal.

On creating motives for farmers to continue work on their land, he said that the government should help producers as much as possible instead of giving subsidies for consumers. If we want to support the villagers we should give subsidies for their production and this would give them an incentive to stay in the village and eventually start (agricultural or related) production. Fortunately, the government has recently given attention to this issue, he said.

Dr. Zali said that his ministry's goals were to increase efficiency in agricultural production and irrigation, to further exploit the great potential in the area of fishing in the Persian Gulf and the Caspian Sea, expanding research on soil, increasing the number of the ministry's rural services centers eliminating the shortages in livestock feed and operate poultry farms in full capacity.

President Meets Azarbayjan, Kordestan Officials

LD0000017 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Excerpts] The governors general of West Azarbayjan and Kordestan, Sheykh-'Attar and Asgharnia, accompanied by the governors of these two provinces, met this evening with Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i. The governor general of Kordestan presented a report to the president. The president, emphasizing the drafting of long-term plans for the Kurdish regions of the country, said:

The nature of our revolution makes it necessary to solve all Kordestan's problems. The people of Kordestan are the same people who, under the whip of deprivation, suffered for many years in the past. The Islamic Republic has come to our nation to remove suffering and deprivation. The most deprived sections of society are the biggest supporters of the Islamic Revolution, and the Muslim Kurdish people are no exception. Our liberating and saving Islamic Revolution has come to save them as well. Our revolution is an Islamic revolution and the Kurdish people of our country are Muslims. Those who were pretending that to the Muslim Kurdish people it is more important to be Kurds than to be Muslims were telling lies. If you search among all the Islamic nations, you will realize that they prefer their faith to their race and nationality.

The president added, emphasizing further assistance to the people to solve their problems and to bring about the facilities that they expect: The nature of the deviant minigroups in the region should be exposed to the Muslim Kurdish people and they should be informed of the problems of the Islamic Republic. The presence of the Islamic Republic and its power should be made clear and the kindness and forgiving nature of the Islamic Republic also should be shown to the Kurds.

Referring to the fact that strengthening links with the popular elements and the use of local talents and abilities would assist in the development and progress of work, the president said: If you refuse local talents and manpower, they will either be wasted — which is an ingratitude to God's bounty — or they will be diverted, which would bring undesirable consequences.

In conclusion, referring to the point that in the Islamic Republic of Iran there is no difference between Kurds and Baluchies, and the others, Mr Khamene'i said: The presence of representatives of all the ethnic minorities at the Islamic Consultative Assembly is something of which you should all be proud. And elections should be held in this region as gloriously as possible. Your presence in the region indicates the presence of the Islamic Republic and you should strive to make your presence as powerful as possible. You are symbols of Islam in that region and you will be examined by the people of the region who are seeking to understand whether the Islamic Republic is truly Islamic. The people will have greater belief in the Islamic Republic if they see that its officials have good personality, proper managerial ability, generosity, and brotherly behavior.

Radio Iran Reports Clashes in Kordestan

GF071754 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] According to Kurdish sources, the Iranian Kurds last Friday in a sweeping attack on the camps and strongholds of the mercenaries of he Islamic regime in (Ashnaviyeh), caused 300 casualties among the Khomeyni forces. The same report says that in another major attack mounted in retaliation for the killings of Kurdish villagers in Divandarreh, the Iranian Kurds succeeded

in inflicting heavy losses on the enemy. In this connection, the Kermanshah-Tabriz road remained closed for 24 hours while it was under the control of the Kurdish fighters.

Mojahedin Paris Office Notes Executions

NC072150 Paris AFP in English 2109 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Text] Paris, Dec 7 (AFP) — More than 214 political prisoners have been executed in Tehran over the past month, the Paris Office of the People's Mojahedin, a leftist Islamic movement announced here today.

A Mojahedin staement, citing "reliable reports from families of political prisoners," said the executions had taken place in three phases at Tehran's Evin Prison.

According to the statement 84 persons were shot November 9 while 100 were put to death between November 10 and 12. More than 30 prisoners were executed on the morning of December 2, the Mojahedin said.

The movement did not disclose the political ideologies of those who were reported executed but noted that they had all been buried in a special section of the Behecht Zahra cemetery reserved exclusively for sympathizers of the people's Mojahedin.

KEYHAN Reports Execution of Shiraz 'Spy'

GF041806 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 21 Nov 83 p 2

[Text] The son of a minister in the Bakhtiar cabinet was executed in Shiraz on the charges of spying against the Islamic Republic Government.

The Shiraz revolution prosecutor in announcing this at a press, radio, and TV conference said:

Sasan Ahmad Kazemi, son of one of the ministers in the Bakhtiar cabinet, confessed during interrogation that toward the end of June 1981 he cooperated with the illegal army Qashqai' Khans and he served as a contact between members of this illegal army and foreign agents. He took orders from the foreign agents. He had obtained a very powerful and complicated receiver and transmitter from foreign agents and installed it in the courtyard of his house. He had been trained by an American in West Germany on how to operate it by using a special code. He was very active in sending and receiving messages to and from outside the country to carry out sinister American plans and schemes and to obtain about 6 million [as published] and forwarding it to the army camps of the Khans, and for making military preparations, like obtaining arms and ammunition via Iraq for the army. He was sentenced to death and the order was carried out in Shiraz.

Drug Smugglers Executed in Tehran 7 Dec

LD071138 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Dec 83

[Excerpt] According to the verdicts of the antinarcotic courts of the Islamic Revolution prosecutor's office of the capital, 20 professional and international smugglers were executed at 0500 this morning in the courtyard of Qasr Prison on charges of intense and continuous activities in buying and selling and distribution of narcotics.